

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-17 are pending in this case. Claims 1-17 have been rejected. Claims 1, 6, 7, 9-11, 12 and 13 have been amended.

The drawings stand objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5). FIG. 8D has been amended to include the missing reference signs 870 and 872. The remainder of the drawing objection is respectfully traversed as drawing signs 216, 730, and 732 are mentioned in the specification.

The specification has been amended to provide the related application status update.

Claims 1-17 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-10 of copending Application No. 09/706,050. The rejection under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting is respectfully traversed in view of the amendments to claims 1, 6, 11, and 13 as is explained below in further detail.

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,158,045 to *You* and further in view of "*Compilers Principles, Techniques, and Tools*" by *Aho, et al.* The rejection of claims 1-17, as amended under 35 USC 103(a), is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 6, 11, and 13 have been amended to include the limitation that the claimed method or apparatus is achieved while maintaining data coherency. No new matter is added to claims 1, 6, 11, or 13, and support for the amendments can be found, for example, in the specification at page 30, lines 15-20 and throughout the specification.

Claims 1, 6, 11, and 13 are deemed to be patentable over the combination of the cited references since neither of the references nor their combination mention data coherency. Therefore, the combination of references fails as a proper basis for a rejection under 35 USC 103(a). For this reason, claims 1, 6, 11, and 13 are deemed to be allowable under 35

HP Reference No. 200308316-1
Client Matter No. 68854.0157
Serial No: 09/706,076

USC 103(a). The remaining claims are also deemed to be allowable as depending from an allowable base claim 1, 6, 11, or 13, as amended.

Claims 7, 9, 11, and 12 have been amended to correct formatting errors. Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, and 10 have been amended to remove the recitation of "the steps of". No new matter has been added by these amendments.

No fees are believed due with this response, but any fee deficiency associated with this submittal may be charged to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

